

THE Bloomfield Record
A WEEKLY JOURNAL
S. MORRIS HULIN, Editor and Proprietor.
Office 29 Broad Street.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22 1897.

Revision of Borough Laws.

Representatives of twenty-four New Jersey boroughs met in Trenton on Monday to receive the report of the special Legislative Committee which was appointed a couple of weeks ago to devise some scheme toward improving the existing borough laws. A draft of a bill was submitted for consideration, but was referred back to the committee, with power to put it in shape and present it to the Legislature.

It provides that borough clerks be appointed by Council and not elected, and that their terms shall be in the discretion of Council; that a treasurer may be appointed in addition to a collector; that the borough election shall be held on the same day as the township election in which the borough is located; that the borough solicitor and assessor need not give bonds.

It provides that Councilmen shall be elected for three-year terms and they must live in the ward they represent; a quorum of Councilmen to consist of four members or three members and the Mayor.

The bill provides for the election of a Mayor and six members of Council, a Freeholder, Assessor, Collector, three Commissioners of Appeal, Poundkeeper and Overseer of the Poor. The appointive officers are Marshal, Clerk, Commissioner of Highways, three Commissioners of Assessment, who shall also be Sinking Fund Commissioners, Solicitor, Police Justice, and as many police officers as Council may provide for by ordinance. The Mayor and Council may appoint a borough engineer if they see fit. The salary of the Mayor is not to exceed \$300, and the term shall be two years; Council shall receive no salary and the members shall be elected for three years. The term of office of Borough Clerk shall be optional with Council; Freeholder, three years; Assessor, three years; Collector, three years; Commissioners of Appeal, one year; Poundkeeper, one year; Overseer of Poor, one year; Borough Council at will of Council; Commissioners of Highways, one year; Commissioners of Assessment, three years; Police Justice, one year; police, at will of Council. The salaries are to be fixed by Council.

The delegates decided that each borough shall be separate in matters of local government and each shall be a separate school district. Where there are over 600 voters in a borough it shall be divided into wards, the division to be made before May next following the passage of the act.

When the Legislative Committee has perfected the bill printed copies of it will be sent to the borough clerks in the State and any suggestions are to be made within five days. The committee will meet in two weeks at the American House.

Social Reformation.

An editorial from The New York Tribune, reproduced last week, was worthy of a careful study by students of the times—especially the “appeal to society” in the last paragraph.

The Tribune becomes revolutionary when it calls upon one class of “society leaders”—to array itself against another and unquestionably the dominant social class, the class that, possessing the most wealth, and being most unscrupulous in exercising its power as well as prodigal in consuming it upon their huts, aways the world quite effectually at the present moment.

In a word, The Tribune makes an appeal that will amount to nothing. Society cannot be disciplined or corrected, much less reformed within itself. Probably the show of trying it is without any sincerity whatever. What good can come out of Greater New York along social lines, beginning at the top? Reform will begin at the bottom, if anywhere on earth, and the cheaper papers, not the dearer ones, are the better missionaries. When The Tribune, drawing aside its skirts from contamination, speaks of “the cheap and nasty press,” of the “drivelings of the drama, the vulgarity of the vaudeville and the pernicious activities of the press agents,” we are disposed to say: “Pot, call not the kettle black.” In the general way of business, all that The Tribune deplors, dramatic and artistic, from grand opera down to Koster & Bial’s, it endorses in its advertising columns.

It is well to talk piously of reforming society, of reforming others than ourselves, but as things social and financial are now drifting along, it is as idle to talk of reforming society as it would be to talk of reforming an egg that had lost its virtue and its sweetenss by over-keeping. The more such reformers as Dr. Parkhurst and Anthony Comstock and so-called

“Christian Citizenship” meddle with social evils (without going radically to the roots of the evil) the more noisome the evil becomes. “The love of money is the root of all evil.”

The Bicycle-Baggage Bill.

One of the first bills introduced in the Legislature will be the bicycle baggage bill, which the organized wheelmen of the State will make a vigorous fight to have passed. The Chief Counsel of the L. A. W. C. Frank Kirker, has issued a circular to all wheelmen in the State, urging them to make every reasonable effort to have it enacted by bringing all proper influences to bear upon the legislature of their locality. The bicycle baggage bill is as follows:

It is enacted by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

That any person who shall have purchased a ticket issued by any railroad corporation entitling such person to transportation on its railroad and ferris as a passenger, shall have the right, by virtue thereof, to the transportation, on the same train or car, with such passenger as baggage, of bicycle, to or from the places designated in such ticket, without further or other payment to the railroad corporation therefor. And no passenger shall be required to remove any ordinary or nasal bicycle bell or lantern from such bicycle, nor to crate, cover or otherwise protect such bicycle.

2. Any railroad corporation refusing to transport bicycles, or refusing to accept the same for transportation as baggage, in violation of the next preceding section, shall forfeit and pay to such passenger the sum of ten dollars for each and every offense, to be recovered in an action of debt in any Court of competent jurisdiction.

The L. A. W. C. is very strong in Montclair, Glen Ridge, Bloomfield, Franklin and other parts of the legislative district now represented by Assemblymen C. W. Powers. He has here an opportunity to make himself solid with the cyclists by supporting this bill, should it be opposed by the railroad companies.

The Legislature.

Speaker MacPherson announced the appointment of his Committees on Monday night at Trenton. The work of the House occupied just thirty-five minutes. A number of petitions and memorials were received and thirty-two bills were introduced. Essex County, while not faring as well as it might have fared, succeeded in securing representation on all the important standing committees, with three of the members, Hogan, Jones and Simpson, securing important chairmanships and six having places on more than one Committee. Assemblyman Hogan did better than the rest of his colleagues, securing three chairmanships including that of Engrossed bills, which carries a \$500 clerk. Assemblyman Powers secured representation on the following Committees: Elections, Municipal Corporations, and chairman of the joint standing committee on Sinking Fund.

The House met again at 10:15 A. M., Tuesday. A resolution by Mr. Scoville was adopted requesting the New Jersey Congressmen to vote for the bill increasing the pay of letter carriers.

Reverend Mr. Gowen’s Report.

Thomas Mc Gowen, as receiver of the Bloomfield Organ Company, presented his report to Vice Chancellor Head in the Chancery Chambers, Newark, on Tuesday, and after it had been confirmed the receiver was discharged. He was represented by Gallagher & Richards. Some of the figures in the report were: Receipts, \$9,153.63, including inventory and appraisement amounting to \$8,766.25; disbursements \$7,027.54; worthless accounts, \$377.61. The compensation asked for on behalf of the receiver was \$250 and his counsel asked for a like amount for fees, besides \$50 for various disbursements.

“Horrible Chimes.”

I wonder, Mr. G. H. S. What causes you so much distress? Perhaps you’ve got an injured spine. That jars you, when you hear a chime? Or, is your liver out of joint?

You work so hard to make a point?

Why, “quiver on the wheel of time?” You’ll get the shakes and then will whine, Then to be “halved and quartered twice,”

You’d better not: take good advice.

Now, tell me, (do not “flirt with truth”) Can any one, maid, or youth, Make any sense, in all your rhymes, About those horrid, “Horrible Chimes?”

Concord.

Obituary.

Charles H. Baldwin, son of Mary H., and the late Alzil H. Baldwin, died at his home in Newark, on Monday, aged 61 years. Mr. Baldwin was born in Bloomfield and conducted a saw mill on Orange St. Funeral services were held from the residence of his son, Edward E. Baldwin, No. 339 Franklin St., on Wednesday, conducted by the Rev. C. A. Cook, of the First Baptist Church. Interment was made in the Bloomfield cemetery.

W. F. Grossch, father of Mrs. W. F. Harrison, died at his home on Grove Ave., on Wednesday, aged 60 years.

Auter-Liedner.

A quiet home wedding was celebrated at the residence of the bride No. 56 Baldwin Street, on Monday evening, at 5 o’clock, when Mrs. Bertha Liedner and John Auter were married by the Rev. Chas. A. Cook, pastor of the First Baptist Church.

When you want good coal order it from SEYMOUR P. GILBERT, at the old stand, foot of Beach Street, Best quality Lehigh, \$5.50; Lackawanna, \$5.25; No. 2 Nut and Pea Coal, \$3.50. These prices are for coal within thirty days of delivery. Telephone No. 87 A. P. O. address, lock box 6, Bloomfield, N. J.

Musical Instruction.

Mrs. F. W. Bennett’s musical season begins Thursday, September 8th. Special attention given to beginners. For terms, etc., address or call at No. 537 Bloomfield Ave.,

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE.

The regular meeting of the Township Committee was held on Monday night.

The following bills were read and approved:

James T. Wrightson, County Clerk, release of taxes, \$33.53; Ward & Tichenor, printing, \$28; Jas. Berry’s Sons, burial of two dogs, \$2; Philip Batzel, pair of rubber gloves, \$2; W. B. Corby, coal for poor and fire accounts, \$95.10; Bloomfield Coal and Supply Company, \$11; Game-Wire Fire Alarm Telegraph Company, supplies, \$4.50; Louis J. Meuser, medicine poor account, \$4.60; Four weeks’ board of Jane Bonnell, \$18; C. L. Voorhees, Poormaster, \$25; Philip Batzel, four pairs shoes, poor account, \$5.50; Hopler & Co., meat supplied poor account, \$4.11; Bloomfield Boarding and Livery Stable, conveying patients to Asylum, \$4; Bloomfield Boarding and Livery Stable, Township Committee inspecting electric lights, \$5; M. J. Calla, mischievous road work, \$24.87; relaying crosswalk, Montgomery Ave. and Walnut Street, \$10; sidewalk grading, \$20.50; Osborne & Marcel Streets, \$6.32; A. H. Olmsted, maps and surveys and attending Committee meetings, \$85; W. W. Taylor, purchase of 10 sewer pails, \$5.

When Mr. Corby’s coal bill was presented Chairman Stout observed that the several departments of the Township use considerable coal for which a good price is paid, and that a considerable sum could be saved if a contract was made in the Summer to the lowest bidder to supply the several departments with coal.

Mr. Gilbert, Chairman of the Water Committee, stated that he was considering the extension of the water main on James Street, and that by having a map prepared of this locality to ascertain what the Baldwin Estate want in regard to a right of way under the aqueduct of the Morris Canal.

Mr. Gilbert also reported the petition for a hydrant on Newark Avenue and Plymouth Street, formerly known as Baldwin Place. These two petitions will receive prompt attention in the Spring.

The Chairman of the Lighting Committee, Powers, being absent, did not prevent Mr. Lawrence calling attention to the inefficient service furnished by the Peoples’ Light and Power Company. The incandescent lights will not cast a shadow. “It was a poor light that would not do that,” said Mr. Lawrence.

Chairman Stout agreed with Mr. Lawrence and said that if Mr. Fisher would call at his office in Newark he would accompany him to the office of the Electric Light Company and they would endeavor to adjust this matter.

Chairman Stout read a communication from S. M. Long, Township Clerk of East Orange, for a meeting of the ordinance committee which was held on Tuesday night in East Orange, in regard to legislation for the use of broad wagon tires.

Messrs. Fisher and Haskell were appointed to represent the Township Committee at the conference.

Mr. Gilbert called attention to the complaint of people in regard to a vicious dog owned by David Ward on Farrand Street. The ownership of the dog is disputed when complaint is made. The police were instructed to investigate this dog case.

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